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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Ball Bearing Production at the Leipziger Kugellagerfabrik "DKF"

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1. The Leipziger Kugellagerfabrik "DKF", Böhmitz-Ehrenberg near Leipzig, which belongs to SAG Avtovelo, manufactures ball bearings for the Soviet Union. The main plant is located at Gutenbergstrasse 6, Böhmitz-Ehrenberg, and Plant I at Naumburgerstrasse 23, Leipzig.
2. Production consists of roller bearings, ball bearings, disk bearings, etc. The factory is capable of producing 500,000 bearings a month, but current production is 330,000 per month (this figure is an average for the first quarter of 1950). Production at the present time consists chiefly of barrel-shaped roller bearings ("Tonnenlager") of 600 and 920 mm diameter.
3. The main plant employs some 650 workers, and plant I some 220 workers. The two plants together have an additional 220 administrative and technical employees. In the main plant, 400 workers work from 6 a.m. till 2 p.m. and 250 work from 2 p.m. till 10 p.m. In plant I, 220 workers work from 7 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.
4. Machine installations consist of 34 lathes of a maximum turning length of 2250 mm and a maximum width of 600 mm, 19 automatic multiple spindle machines, 14 small boring and turning lathes (Karusselldreihbänke). There are also milling machines, radial drilling machines, upright drilling machines, high-speed planers, drawing machines, slotting machines, ball-molding machines and various small machines for machine shops.
5. The main plant receives its electric power from the power station at Kalkwitz; plant I receives its current from the Leipzig power station.
6. Raw materials have previously come exclusively from the USSR. In April 1950, the plant bought 90 tons of steel in the Ruhr for the production of roller bearings.
7. Production is shipped to the Soviet Union. Forty to forty-five percent of the present production is unfit for use, partly because of the inferior quality of the Russian steel, partly because of worn-out machinery.

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C. German directors are Thimicke and Gröbe (or Gräbe).

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